



U.S. Department of Justice

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**MANCHESTER MAN PLEADS
GUILTY TO COCAINE AND HEROIN DISTRIBUTION**

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced that Joseph Monroig, also known as Jose “Nico” Gonzalez, age 39, of Manchester, New Hampshire plead guilty in U.S. District Court in connection with the distribution of heroin and cocaine in Manchester, New Hampshire in August, 1997. Monroig admitted his guilt to a two count indictment during a hearing before U. S. District Judge Joseph A. DiClerico, Jr. He was detained pending a sentencing hearing which is scheduled for February 17, 2004.

United States Attorney Colantuono stated, “Crimes such as drug trafficking impact communities and place costs on society. One of the highest priorities of the United States Attorney’s Office is to continue to seek ways to prevent and reduce crime through the aggressive prosecution of these cases. This case is just one example of our continued dedication to that mission.”

The successful prosecution of this case resulted from the efforts of the Manchester Police Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert J. Veiga.